

Today the world will celebrate Global Youth Service Day and I am proud to support the youngest constituents of Florida's 23rd Congressional district in their efforts to improve our community. To this end, I am a proud original co-sponsor of H.Res. 210, which supports the goals and ideals of Global Youth Service Day – April 15-17, 2011.

We all have a role to play in changing the world. This weekend, millions of youth around the world will address the most important issues in their communities on Global Youth Service Day, the largest service event in the world celebrating the contributions youth make to their communities 365 days of the year. Whether you are concerned with education, hunger, homelessness, childhood obesity, or the environment, Global Youth Service Day provides us all with an opportunity to mobilize friends and celebrate your accomplishments.

I am enormously inspired by the young people participating in youth-led service and service-learning initiatives this weekend. It is the young leaders around the world, like the ones we will witness this weekend, who give us the hope of a brighter tomorrow. It is with great passion and innovation that these young adults across the globe are addressing critical issues impacting their neighborhoods and greater communities.

Global Youth Service Day is now celebrated in over 100 countries. Youth Service America will distribute over \$1 million in grants to over 800 local groups organizing Global Youth Service Day projects. I am very grateful to the coordinating efforts of Youth Service America (YSA) and its Global Youth Service Network which involves over 200 national and global partner organizations, 100 local and statewide lead agency partners, and thousands of local schools and community organizations. I encourage those youth in the 23rd District to take the opportunity to become involved in Global Youth Service Day this weekend.

For more information about GYSD, to register your own service project, or to find service projects and opportunities to volunteer in your community, please visit www.GYSD.org.